

CH-766

1925

Creeds Mill Road House

Marbury

Private

The Creeds Mill Road House is a circa 1925 frame 2-story Colonial Revival 4-square dwelling with a well preserved interior. The dwelling faces west standing approximately 50 yards from Creeds Mill Road on a six acre parcel surrounded by a c. 1960 residential community. Once the site of an apple orchard, the site includes two interesting early 20th century outbuildings used to process and store apples.

The Creeds Mill Road House is significant as an interesting example of early 20th century architecture, and for its association with the little understood small orchard industry in Charles County. Creeds Mill Road House is associated with a larger tract of land containing 46 acres owned and subdivided by C.T. Jenkins in 1918. At some later date it was occupied by Johnnie Wheeler who operated an apple orchard business from the site.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CH-766

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Creeds Mill Road House
other

2. Location

street and number 5150 Creeds Mill Road not for publication
city, town Marbury vicinity
county Charles

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Malcolm and Julie Simpson
street and number 5150 Creeds Mill Road telephone 202-566-1980(w)
city, town Marbury state MD zip code 20658

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Charles County Courthouse tax map and parcel: 20 p. 234
city, town La Plata liber 1251 folio 234

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report
☐ Other

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	1
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	2
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	3
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			0

7. Description

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Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Creeds Mill Road House is a circa 1925 frame 2-story Colonial Revival 4-square dwelling with a pyramidal roof, and a hipped roof porch extending the width of the front elevation. The dwelling faces west standing approximately 50 yards from Creeds Mill Road on a six acre parcel surrounded by a c. 1960 residential community. The site includes two outbuildings built during the first half of the 20th century.

The roof is covered in asphalt shingles and pierced by three pyramidal roof dormers. The cornice is boxed. The foundation consists of poured concrete piers in-filled with molded concrete blocks. The front elevation faces southwest and consists of a centered 3-part dormer window. The second story includes two single windows above an entrance door with sidelights and a three part window on the first floor. The entrance, near the northwest elevation, is sheltered by a hipped roof porch supported on replacement metal posts.

Moving clockwise, the northwest elevation includes a centered dormer 3-part window. Fenestration on this elevation is asymmetrical and includes two decorative multi-light windows that light the interior stair passage. Additionally, the second-story has two widows flanking a third of smaller scale, which presumably lights a second story bath. The first floor includes a 2-part window to the rear that lights the kitchen.

The rear northeast elevation includes a one-story rear addition with a continuous poured concrete foundation. This addition includes contemporary windows and is believed to be of recent construction. The main block second-story includes two symmetrical second-story windows. The southeast elevation includes a 3-part dormer window above two symmetrical second-story windows. The first floor features a projecting bay holding a 3-part window near the rear elevation and a single window toward the front.

The main dwelling measures 24x24 overall. The interior floorplan, trim and hardware are well-preserved. The most prominent ornamentation is found in the foyer where the square newel is paneled and the stair includes scrollsawn details. Also, the stair is lit by two decorative fixed multi-light windows. Window and door trim is square-edged throughout.

Outbuildings include two front-gable structures originally used in apple orchard processing and storage. The first consists of a wood frame structure covered in original vertical board siding and a metal roof. Two wide shed additions extend from either eave end. This building stands to the northeast of the dwelling and once held a large apple sorting machine. To the south is an additional shed used as a cooler as revealed by the remnants of sawdust insulation between the studs.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates 1918

Architect/Builder unknown

Construction dates 1918

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

The Creeds Mill Road House is an interesting example of early 20th century architecture in Charles County and the only documented example of an apple orchard complex in Charles County. The foursquare style emerged locally after 1900 as a vernacular interpretation of the Colonial Revival and Prairie styles, remaining popular until around 1925. The dwelling is located near Indian Head, where the establishment of the Naval Proving Ground in the late 19th century sparked a building boom in the vicinity during the first three decades of the 20th century.

While Charles County had depended on tobacco as a principle cash crop since the 1700's, largely due to improved transportation, some agricultural diversification took place during the late-19th and early-20th century. Increasingly farmers produced a variety of crops including honey, assorted vegetables, and orchard products that were sold at local or regional markets. These market gardens increased in value from a meager \$580 in 1880 to \$69,610 in 1910. Dairy production increased from 53,878 in 1870 to over 140,000 in 1920. The total number of chickens raised locally doubled within one decade from 55,330 in 1880 to 109,551 in 1890. By 1910 that number had increased to 184,389.

Modernization of agricultural equipment also affected the output of county farmers. Reapers, threshers, and bailers as well as steam-powered and combustion equipment arrived from the railroad in the early-20th century, allowing farmers to produce more goods using fewer farm hands. Improved fertilizers shipped from plants in Baltimore enhanced the county's soils, increasing their yield.

Marbury and the surrounding area south of Mattawoman Creek was connected to the proving ground at first by a locally built narrow footbridge and after 1917 by a unique hand drawn footbridge that allowed coal barges to proceed upstream. Congressman Sydney Mudd was the driving force behind the federally funded footbridge construction stating that, "The purposes of this bridge is to afford direct and convenient communication to the government employees, for nearly 50% of them have homes on the Marbury side of the Creek. Further evidence of the impact on the proving ground to the adjoining region can be found in census records from 1890-1920. Not only was the election district of Pomonkey, including Indian Head and Marbury, the only area of growth. Between 1910 and 1920 the population nearly doubled from 1589 to 3,124. In 1920, a new census district was established in Marbury having a population of 1,392. (1)

Creeds Mill Road House is associated with a larger tract of land containing 46 acres owned and subdivided by C.T. Jenkins in 1918. Formerly the property had belonged to the Mattingly family. (Liber 33/Folio308) According to local tradition as well as evidence on sight, the property was the site of an apple orchard business of Johnnie Wheeler, although no direct link to the Wheeler family has been found in the preliminary land record history for this site.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No CH-766

Name Creeds Mill Road House

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

Endnotes

(1) Carlisle, Rodney. Powder and Propellants. Energetic Material at Indian Head, Maryland, 1890-1990. pg. 96.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. CH-766

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 6.67

Acreage of historical setting unknown

Quadrangle name Indian Head

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Creeds Mill Road Hose is associated with Charles County Property Tax Map 20, Parcel 234, Lot 1.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Cathy Hardy, Historic Preservation Planner

organization Charles County Planning

date 3/17/2003

street and number 200 Baltimore Street

telephone 301-396-5815

city or town La Plata

state MD zip code 20646

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032
410-514-7600

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-766

Section 8 Page 1

Creeds Mill Road House
name of property
Charles County, MD
county and state

Chain of Title:

- 1987 Malcolm and Julie Simpson to Alvey F. and Barbara J. Green
 Lots No. 1 & 2 TC Jenkins subdivision. 4.4 acres
 1251/558
- 1977 John and Helen Wagner to Alvey and Barbara Green
 502/72
- 1972 Leon and Dona Wood to John and Helen Wagner
 257/616
- 1918 Clenton T. Jenkins to McFaddin Dick
 33/311
- 1918 Francis E. Mattingly, et al to Clenton T. Jenkins. Buildings and improvements.
 33/308

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-766

Section 9 Page 1

Creeds Mill Road House

name of property

Charles County, Maryland

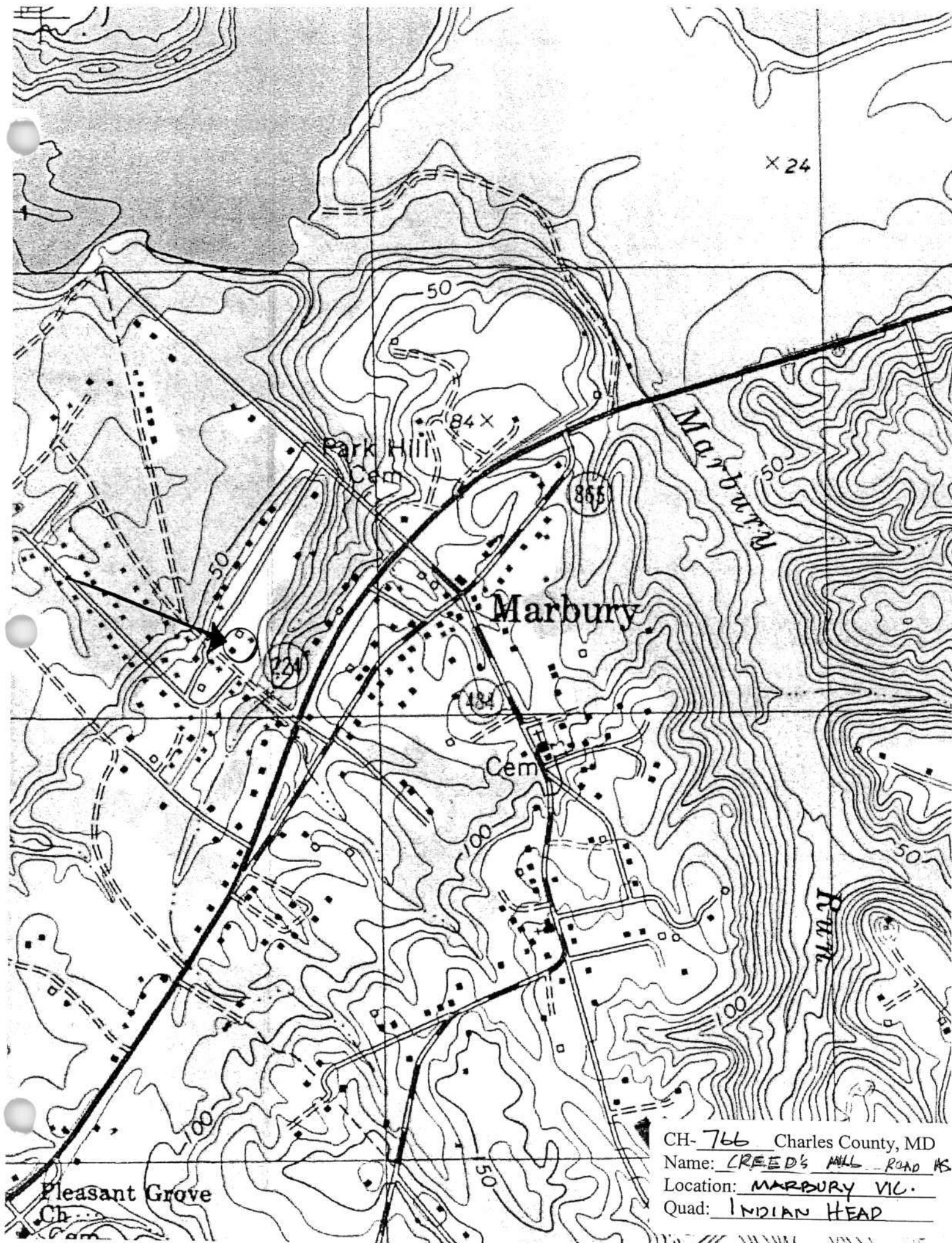
county and state

Major Bibliographic References:

Brown, Jack D., et al. Charles County, Maryland, A History.
Charles County Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

Charles County Land Records, Charles County Courthouse, LaPlata, Maryland.

Klapthor, Margaret Brown. The History of Charles County, Maryland.
LaPlata, MD: Charles County Tercentenary, Inc., 1958.



CH- 766 Charles County, MD
Name: CREED'S MILL ROAD MS
Location: MARBURY VIC.
Quad: INDIAN HEAD



CH-766

CREEDS MILL ROAD HOUSE

MARLBURY VIL.

11/02

C. HARDY

MD SHPO

LOOKING SE

1 OF 6



CH-766

CREEDS MILL ROAD HOUSE
MARBURY VIL.

11/02
C. HARDY

MD SAPO

LOOKING NW

2016



CH-766

GEEDS Mm ROAD HOUSE

MARBURY VIC.

S.C. HARDY

11/02

IND SHPO

STAIR DETAIL

30R6



CH-766

CREEDS MILL ROAD HOUSE
MARLBURY VIL.

C. HARDY

11/02

MD SHPO
STAIRS

40FB



CH-766
CREEDS MILL ROAD HOUSE,
MARBURY VIC.

C. Herby

11/02

MD SHPO

SHED

50FL



CH-766

CREEDS MILL ROAD HOUSE

MARBURY VIC

C. Herdy

11/02

SAED

60FB